

20-E-0460/docCM-6393174

7 August 2020

David Haynes

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Dear David

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 27 July 2020. You requested the following:

Please clarify if DOC are developing, or intending to develop, a deer control plan, or equivalent, to manage deer numbers across, or in any part of, New Zealand.

Our response is below:

The Department has begun a project to work with Treaty Partners and other stakeholders to develop a framework for the future management of wild deer in New Zealand.

The project is looking at how to achieve better environmental, cultural, recreational and commercial outcomes by improving the way deer are managed recognising the variety of ecosystems, deer species and their socio-economic values in the various regions.

Until contributions to the development of the project have been received from iwi and stakeholders, it is too early at this stage to determine what form that framework may take.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact the Project Lead, Dave Carlton dcarlton@doc.govt.nz if you would like any further information.

Yours sincerely

Amber Bill

Director, Biodiversity Threats

for Director General